

## Letter to the Editor: Factors That Influence the Further Survival of Patients Who Survive Five Years After the Diagnosis of Cancer in Childhood or Adolescence

We identified an error in the computer program which we employed for the calculation of the standardized mortality ratios (SMRs) reported on page 94 (Med Pediatr Oncol 1994; 22:91-96). The revised calculation of the SMRs shows that those patients who did not have recurrent or progressive disease during the first 5 years after diagnosis have excessive mortality, and thus do *not* have a survival rate which is the same as that of the general population. The section entitled, Standardized Mortality Ratio should read: The SMR was 476.7 (95% confidence interval 282.1-753.1) for men who did not experience disease recurrence or progression during the first 5 years after diagnosis, and was 2,923.1 (95% confidence interval 2,029.9-4,065.5) for men who experienced disease recurrence during the first 5 years after diagnosis. The SMR was 614.3 (95% confidence interval 281.8-1,165.6) for those women who did not relapse during the

first 5 years after diagnosis, and was 5,893.4 (95% confidence interval 3,802.2-8,692.4) for women who experienced disease recurrence or progression during the first 5 years after diagnosis. We regret the error.

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